



## Energy Advisory Committee Report

- The Energy Advisory Committee held three meetings
- This is a large committee featuring individuals with a wide array of knowledge about energy.
- Our first meeting was focused on transportation energies. The group engaged in a lengthy discussion about the viability of certain alternative transportation fuels, as well as how the state raises transportation revenues.
- As has been said many times by many people, we are running out of revenues for new road construction. As fuel efficiencies of vehicles increase, and as alternative energy sources become more prevalent, the traditional gas tax becomes more and more outdated.
- The group didn't make any recommendations in this area, but engaging in thoughtful conversation about the topic is an important first step. Delegate Cosgrove shared a proposal he had to apply the electric vehicle registration fee to hybrid vehicles as well, but did not ask the group to vote on it.
- At the second and third meeting, the group focused on viable alternative energies.
- Dominion provided an overview of its renewable energy developments.

- Dr. William Leightley from the Institute for Advanced Learning and Research updated the group on the biomass industry. A representative from Piedmont Bioproducts followed up this presentation with an overview of a project he is spearheading for local biomass feedstock refineries.
- One of our committee members, representing Agilis Energy, introduced us to energy analytics and the role that it can play in conserving energy. We also received a briefing from a member of the Virginia Energy Efficiency Alliance about the important role that energy conservation plays in any discussion about energy.
- By request of some of our committee members, DEQ provided an update on their new "permit by rule" process for small renewable energy projects.
- Ray Crabbs, who had briefed the committee in 2011, returned to update the committee on a waste-to-energy facility in Florida. When he spoke to us last year, they were just developing the facility that uses new waste-to-energy technology, but now it is up and running.
- Finally, the committee received a short briefing from the Solar Energy Industry Association.